AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-12. (cancelled)

13. (currently amended) A data processing system, comprising:

a plurality of communications links designed to communicate trade information to and from a plurality of workstations, the trade information comprising information describing orders in an electronic market for items offered for sale or bid to buy, at least some of the trade information to be presented to the workstations;

a commission processing module designed to receive information relating to execution of trades in the items, and to determine a commission payable by a customer to a trade, or to apply a credit against commission fees to the customer, based at least in part on one or more characteristics from the group consisting of the time of the trade, day of the trade, location of a trade, and the customer trading location, ~~or to apply a credit against commission fees based on bids or offers posted by the customer~~.

14-22. (cancelled).

23. (currently amended) A data processing system for implementing a commission allocation process in transacting the purchase and sale of select items, said system comprising:

a plurality of workstations for presenting trade information relating to trades of items arranged by the data processing system;

a server programmed to receive said trade information from said plurality of workstations, and to determine a commission payable by a customer to a trade, or to apply a credit against commission fees to the customer, based at least in part on one or more characteristics of the trade from the group consisting of the time of the trade, day of the trade, location of the trade, and the customer trading location, ~~or to apply a credit against commission fees based on bids or offers posted by the customer~~.

24. (cancelled)

25. (currently amended) A method for determining a commission on a trade, said method comprising:

providing control logic designed to receive information relating to execution of trades in the items, and to determine a commission payable by a customer to a trade, or to apply a credit against commission fees to the customer, based at least in part on one or more attributes of a trade of an item arranged by a computer system between at least two customers, the one or more attributes being drawn from the group consisting of the time of the trade, day of the trade, location of the trade, and customer trading location, ~~or to apply a credit against commission fees based on bids or offers posted by the customer~~; and

determining the commission for the trade based on the one or more attributes of the trade.

26. (cancelled)

27. (previously presented) The method of claim 25 further comprising:

assigning at least one of said two customers said commission based on the one or more attributes of the trade; and

presenting said commission to said at least one of said two customers.

28-31. (cancelled)

32. (previously presented) The method of claim 25 wherein the commission is further based on whether at least one of said two customers was active or passive during said trade.

33. (previously presented) The method of claim 25 wherein the commission is further based on a class which includes said item.

34-36 (cancelled).

37. (currently amended) A method for determining a reward for at least one customer, said method comprising:

providing control logic designed to determine a commission payable by a customer to a trade, or to apply a credit against commission fees to the customer, based at least in part on one or more attributes of a trade of an item arranged by a computer system between at least two customers, the one or more attributes being drawn from the group consisting of the time of the trade, day of the trade, location of the trade, and customer trading location, or to apply a credit against commission fees based on bids or offers posted by the customer; and

storing in the memory of the computer system for offset against future commissions an amount of a reward based at least in part on the characterized attribute of the trade.

38-42. (cancelled).

43. (currently amended) The method of claim 37 [[42]] wherein the commission is further based on whether said customer was active or passive during said trade.

44-49. (cancelled)

50. (original) The method of claim 37 wherein said determining said reward comprises determining whether items similar to said item being traded by said customer were traded by other customers at the time, day, or location said item was traded by said customer.

51. (original) The method of claim 37 wherein said determining said reward comprises determining whether said customer is a new customer.

52. (original) The method of claim 37 wherein said determining said reward comprises rewarding said customer for participating in at least part of said trade.

53. (original) The method of claim 37 wherein determining said reward comprises determining a rebate, a credit, or both assigned to said customer.

54. (cancelled)

55. (previously presented) The data processing system of claim 13, wherein:

the commission processing module determines the commission based at least in part on the time of the trade.

56. (previously presented) The data processing system of claim 13, wherein:

the commission processing module determines the commission based at least in part on the day of the trade.

57. (previously presented) The data processing system of claim 13, wherein:

the commission processing module determines the commission based at least in part on the location of the trade.

58. (previously presented) The data processing system of claim 13, wherein:

the commission processing module determines the commission based at least in part on an offset credit earned by previous posting of bids or offers by the customer.

59. (previously presented) The data processing system of claim 13, wherein:

the commission processing module further determines the commission based at least in part on whether the customer was on an active side or a passive side of the trade.

60. (previously presented) The data processing system of claim 13, wherein:

the commission processing module further determines the commission based at least in part on whether there is a spread in the transaction.

61. (previously presented) The data processing system of claim 13, wherein:

the commission processing module further determines the commission based at least in part on the customer's method of accessing the system.

62. (previously presented) The data processing system of claim 13, wherein:

the commission processing module further determines the commission based at least in part on a number of transactions the customer has executed.

63. (previously presented) The data processing system of claim 13, wherein:

the commission processing module further determines the commission based at least in part on a level of liquidity of the item subject of the trade.

64. (currently amended) The method of claim 25, wherein:

the control logic server determines the commission based at least in part on the time of the trade.

65. (currently amended) The method of claim 64, wherein:

the control logic server determines the commission based at least in part on the day of the trade.

66. (currently amended) The method of claim 64, wherein:

the control logic server determines the commission based at least in part on the location of the trade.

67. (currently amended) The method of claim 25, wherein:

the control logic server determines the commission based at least in part on an offset credit earned by previous posting of bids or offers by the customer.

68. (currently amended) The method of claim 25, wherein:

the control logic ~~server~~ further determines the commission based at least in part on whether there is a spread in the transaction.

69. (currently amended) The method of claim 25, wherein:

the control logic ~~server~~ further determines the commission based at least in part on a level of liquidity of the item subject of the trade.

70. (previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein:

the reward is determined based at least in part on the time of the trade.

71. (previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein:

the reward is determined based at least in part on the day of the trade.

72. (previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein:

the reward is determined based at least in part on the location of the trade.

73. (previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein:

the reward is further determined based at least in part on whether the customer was on an active side or a passive side of the trade.

74. (previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein:

the reward is further determined based at least in part on whether there is a spread in the transaction.

75. (previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein:

the reward is further determined based at least in part on the customer's method of accessing the system.

76. (previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein:

the reward is further determined based at least in part on a number of transactions the customer has executed.

77. (previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein:

the reward is further determined based at least in part on a level of liquidity of the item subject of the trade.